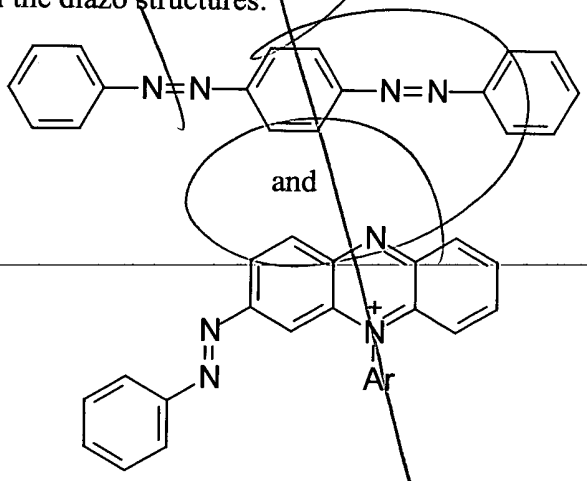
ethyleneoxy units; or L_1 is —NRC(=O)$(CH_2)_n$—, —NRC(=O)$(CH_2)_n$C(=O)NH—, or —NR $(CH_2)_n$C(=O)NH$(CH_2)_n$, L_2 is —$(CH_2)_n$O—, and L_3 is — $(CH_2)_n$—, where each n is an integer from 1 to 12;

X is an amino acid, a polypeptide, a nucleoside, a nucleotide, a polynucleotide, or a protected form thereof; or X is an acid-labile protecting group;

Z is selected from H, CO_2H, OH, NH_2, NHR, NR_2, SH, $OP(NR_1R_2)(OR_3)$, an ester, a cleavable linker, a solid support, a reactive linking group, and a label selected from a fluorescent dye, a hybridization-stabilizing moiety, a chemiluminescent dye, and an affinity ligand, where R_1 and R_2 are C_1–C_{12} alkyl; C_5–C_{14} aryl; or cycloalkyl containing up to 10 carbon atoms, or when R_1 and R_2 are taken together with the phosphoramidite nitrogen atom, R_1 and R_2 are C_4–C_{11} alkyldiyl, and R_3 is a phosphite ester protecting group; and

Q is selected from the diazo structures:



wherein Ar is C_5–C_{14} aryl; one of the aryl carbons of the diazo structures is the site of attachment to L_1; at least one aryl carbon of each diazo structure is substituted with an electron-withdrawing group and at least one aryl carbon of each diazo structure is substituted with an electron-donating group.

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested. By this Preliminary Amendment, non-elected claims 26-75 have been canceled, and claim 1 has been amended. Claims 1-25 are pending.